

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 AGR-05

COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 IGA-02 L-03 H-02 /091 W
----- 061364

R 121520Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7394

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD EEC MO

SUBJECT: LOCAL REACTION TO CONCLUSION GOM/EC AGREEMENT

REF: EC BRUSSELS 238, 75 RABAT 2151

1. DELAYED SEVERAL MONTHS BEYOND EXPECTATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENT OF EC/GOM AGREEMENT FRONT-PAGED HERE UNDER HEADLINE "VERITABLE DEVELOPMENT CONTRACT SIGNED BETWEEN MOROCCO AND THE EC". AD REFERENDUM NATURE OF AGREEMENT NOT MENTIONED AND CAREFUL READING OF LIMITED PRESS ACCOUNTS SUGGESTS HEADLINE ALMOST AS EXAGGERATED AS EARLIER PRESS ACCOUNTS OF MARK TWAIN'S DECEASE.

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2. PRESS REPORTS HIGHLIGHTED EC LOANS AND GRANTS TO GOM TOTALLING 130 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT TO BE SPREAD OVER NEXT FIVE YEARS (WE UNDERSTAND GRANT ELEMENT 16 MILLION OR LESS). EVEN 30 MILLION UNIT OF ACCOUNT LOAN FOR FY 76 IMPORTANT HOWEVER AND BECOMES FIRST FRUITS OF GOM SCRAMBLE FOR FINANCE TO COVER MAJOR PROJECTED 1976 FOREIGN EXCHANGE SHORTFALL (SEE PARA 6C, RABAT 108). RESULTS PRESUMABLY REFLECT GOM FINANCING NEEDS EXPLAINED BY KING HASSAN TO COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON DURING LATTER'S VISIT TO RABAT LAST APRIL.

3. RE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR, PRESS ACCOUNT ASSERTS THAT EC HAS OFFERED DUTY-FREE ENTRY FOR ALL INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS PLUS UNSPECIFIED PROVISIONAL QUOTAS FOR REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND FOR CORK.

4. LESS SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN REACHED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. PRESS NOTES FREE ENTRY FOR 50,000 HECTO-LITRES WINE IN BOTTLES AND 80 PERCENT TARIFF REDUCTION ON OTHER WINES, PLUS CUMULATION PRIVILEGE FOR POTATOES, TOMATOES, AND APRICOT PULP. PRESS REPORT TREATS THESE AS IF OF COMPARABLE VALUE TO UNMENTIONED TERMS FOR CITRUS PRODUCTS AND EARLY VEGETABLES. GOM HAD CONSISTENTLY HELD LATTER OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE AND INSISTED AGREEMENT IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT IMPROVED ACCESS FOR THESE PRODUCTS.

5. LIKEWISE, NOTHING MENTIONED IN LOCAL PRESS REGARDING IMPROVED SOCIAL WELFARE ARRANGEMENTS FOR MOROCCAN WORKERS IN EC, WHICH HAD ALSO BEEN STRESSED LOCALLY AS SINE QUA NON OF AGREEMENT.

6. APPRECIATE COPY OF PROMISED TEXT WHEN AVAILABLE.
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 12 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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